CERTAIN GRIEVANCES,

OR,

THE POPISH ERRORS AND Ungodlineſſe of ſo much of the SERVICE-BOOK as is Antichriſtian.

Plainly laid open, by way of Conference between a Countrey Gentleman and a Miniſter of Gods Word.

Whereunto are annexed, moſt ſtrange and fearful judgements of God, ſhewed upon Churches in time of Divine Service, yea, when they were kneeling at the Lords Table, which ought to ſtirre up all that do truly fear God, and his judgements, and that do love God and the King, and the peace and proſperitie of this Kingdome, to pray heartily, that God will put into the heart of our gracious King, and into the hearts of all the Nobilitie, Knights, and Burgeſſes of the High Court of PARLIAMENT, not to deferre too long the reforming of what is amiſſe, in the publike worſhip and Service of God; leſt in the mean while, the wrath of God be kindled, and come forth as a conſuming fire.

Whereunto alſo are added, the Reaſons why the Service-book was refuſed of the Church of *Scotland*.

When you come and appear before me, Who hath required this at your hands? Iſa. 1.12.

Printed in the yeer. 1642.

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TO THE RIGHT HONOVRABLE AND HIGH COVRT OF *PARLIAMENT.*

Moſt humbly ſheweth unto your Honors,

THat Almighty God hath ſhewed ſtrange and fearefull ſignes and tokens of his heavy wrath and Iudgements, that doe hang over this Land, and are ready to come upon it, for the crying ſinnes that doe abound in it every day more and more.

In *Barkſhire* on Wedneſday the 9 of *Aprill* 1628. about ſix of the clock in the afternoone, a ſtrange noiſe was heard in the ayre, and after that, as though a great piece of Ordnance had been ſhot off, and a little while after that, two

more went off, and after that, Muskets were heard to goe off, ſo thicke, as if it had been in a ſet battell, and after that, the ſound of a Drum, ſo loud, as it did amaze and aſtoniſh all that heard it. Stones came out of the ayre, one was found in the Pariſh of *Bokin*, knee-deep in the ground, till it came to the rock, and then broke; the pieces thereof, being gathered, did waigh twenty-eight pound. One Miſtris *Grove* and her man riding homewards, did ſee it fall in her own ground, who, as ſoone as the ſtorme was over, came with her man to dig it up: her man as he was digging, did faint and ſwound, and was like to die. Two of the pieces were ſent by one *John Hoskins*, dwelling in the pariſh of *Wantage*, to a Gun-ſmith dwelling in the *Minories*, neare *Algate*, at the ſigne of the Croſſe-gunnes, who did ſhew and give pieces of them to many; my ſelfe did ſee a piece that he gave to one Maſter *Bell*, a Chaundler in *White-Chappell*. Another ſtone was found in the Pariſh of *Challow*, which waighed 14 pound

There was then alſo a great and fearefull ſtorm of haile, ſo big, as they drew bloud from the Cattell, and made them run and roare.

At

At the same time, a pond of water was turned in colour like bloud, at *Petwick* in the Parish of *Challow*.

Some of the water was brought to *London*, by the wife of *John Haskins*, and given to the said Gunsmith, who did shew it to many, that did dip their handkerchers in it, and therewith their handkerchers were stained, in colour like Claret wine, which diverse now living will testifie upon oath.

The like was seene in the midst of a pond neere *Cambridge*, where the owner of the pond thinking that some man was drowned, or murdered and throwne into that place, did drag to see, the water being troubled & made black and foule with the filth and muddle that was brought up, did presently (in that place, and no where else) come to the same colour that it was of before, like bloud, or rather Claret Wine.

The bloudy Oysters that the Earle of *Arundell* had, ought not to be slighted, though some say, they were sicke: Why should his Oysters onely be sicke, and none of the rest.

To relate all the strange and fearefull sights

that have been seene of late in the ayre, and on the Land, in divers places within this Kingdome, would come to a large Volume: therefore I humbly crave leave to put your Honors in mind of some of the most strange and fearefull Iudgements of God upon Churches, in time of divine Service A true Relation whereof, is hereunto annexed, *Fol.* 41. to stirre up all that doe truely feare God, and his Iudgements, to pray heartily, that God will put into the heart of our gracious King, and into the hearts of the Nobilitie, Knights and Burgesses of this Honorable and High Court of Parliament, to reforme what is amisse in his holy Worship and Service, and that in time before his wrath be kindled and come forth as a consuming fire.

The grace of our Lord Iesus Christ, be with you all, Amen

LEVVES HUGHES.

TO THE CHRISTIAN READER.

AS S. Paul, *ſpeaking of falſe Apoſtles, ſaith, that* they are deceitfull Workers, *and that they do transforme themſelves into the Apoſtles of Chriſt*, 2 Cor. 11. 12. *ſo may I ſay, of a nameleſſe, or rather a ſhameleſſe man, that hath taken upon him, (by miſapplying the holy Scriptures) to maintaine all the Popiſh errours of the* Service-Booke, *and hath transformed himſelfe into a Miniſter of Chriſt, being indeed, a very* Antichriſt, *in that he taketh upon him, to maintaine ſo much of the Service preſcribed unto God, in the Booke of* Common Prayer, *as is* Antichriſtian, *and is not aſhamed to ſay, that* Letanies, *or* Rogations, *were the ſtrength, ſtay, and comfort of Gods Church, and that by the Name of* Jeſus, *is meant,* Jeſus named, *and that at the mentioning of the Name* Jeſus, *every knee ſhould bow; and to prove the Antiquitie, of ſo much of the* Service-Booke, *as is Antichriſtian, he doth alledge, ſome Popes and ancient Fathers, that had their Antichriſtian errours, which they received from the Antichriſts, which in the Apoſtles time, did ſecretly ſow the ſeeds of the Antichriſtian Religion; which the Apoſtle doth call, the* Myſtery of Iniquitie, 2 *Theſ.* 2. 7.

In the Apostles time, they were called Antichrists, *that did secretly sow the seeds of the Antichristian Religion,* 1 Joh. 2. 18. *so may we now call all them Antichrists, that doe sow the seeds of the Antichristian Religion, either by their Preaching or Writing.*

The Licensers of such Bookes, may shake hands with the Authors of them, as their fellow Antichrists, and fellow-theeves, because they doe what they can, to rob God of the worship and honour, due unto his holy Majestie, therefore pray, and pray heartily, that God will either turne their hearts, or stop their mouths, from speaking, and binde their hands from writing against the truth. And if thou be one of them, whose consciences will not serve them, to come into the place of Gods publike worship, to heare his holy Word, till the Service be all read, doe as the godly in Jerusalem *did, when they saw that the chiefe of the Priests did bring the abhomination of the Heathen, into the publike worship and service of God, they did not make any tumult or stirre, but did mourne and cry secretly unto God, against those abhominations; so doe you.*

The three godly Children, did not goe about to pull downe the golden Image, that Nebuchadnezzar *had set up, but did refuse to worshipe it.*

Joseph *of* Arimathea, *did not goe about to take downe the body of Christ, till he had begd and obtained leave of* Pilate; *whose example serveth, to teach all Christians, that in things concerning the authoritie of the Magistrate, they ought to acquaint him, and aske his leave, before they attempt any thing.*